

**APPENDIX TO AMENDMENT**

Please amend claims 1, 11, 21, 31, 32, and 33 as follows:

1. (Four Times Amended) For use in connection with a remote method invocation system, a stub retrieval and loading subsystem for controlling the retrieval and loading of a stub of a remote method into an execution environment to facilitate invocation of the remote method by a program executing in said execution environment, the stub retrieval subsystem comprising:

A. a stub retriever configured to initiate a retrieval of said stub from a server associated with processing of said remote method, said stub used to facilitate remote invocation of said remote method; and

B. a stub loader configured to, after [when] said stub is received by said stub retriever from said server, load said stub into said execution environment, thereby to make the stub available for use in said remote invocation of said remote method.

11. (Four Times Amended) A stub retrieval and loading method for controlling the retrieval and loading of a stub of a remote method into an execution environment to facilitate invocation of the remote method by a program executing in said execution environment, the stub retrieval method comprising the steps of:

A. initiating a retrieval of said stub from a server associated with processing of said remote method, said stub used to facilitate remote invocation of said remote method; and

B. after [when] said stub is received from said server, loading said stub into said execution environment, thereby to make the stub available for use in said remote invocation of said remote method.

21. (Four Times Amended) For use in connection with a remote method invocation method, a stub retrieval and loading computer program product for controlling a computer to, in turn, control the retrieval and loading of a stub of a remote method into an execution environment to facilitate invocation of the remote method by a program executing in said execution environment, the stub retrieval computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium having encoded thereon:

A. stub retriever code configured to enable said computer to initiate a retrieval of said stub from a server associated with processing of said remote method; said stub used to facilitate remote invocation of said remote method; and

B. stub loader code configured to enable said computer to, after [when] said stub is received from said server, load said stub into said execution environment, thereby to make the stub available for use in said remote invocation of said remote method.

31. (Four Times Amended) For use in connection with a remote method invocation system, a stub retrieval and loading subsystem for controlling the retrieval and loading of a stub of a remote method into an execution environment to facilitate invocation of the remote method by a program executing in said execution environment, the stub retrieval subsystem comprising:

A. a computer; and

B. a control arrangement configured to control said computer, said control arrangement comprising:

i. a stub retrieval module configured to control said computer to initiate a retrieval of said stub from a server associated with processing of said remote method, said stub used to facilitate remote invocation of said remote method; and

ii. a stub loader module configured to control said computer to, after [when] said stub is received from said server in response to said stub retrieval module, load said stub into said execution environment, thereby to make the stub available for use in said remote invocation of said remote method.

32. (Four Times Amended) A control arrangement for use in connection with a computer to control the retrieval and loading of a stub of a remote method into an execution environment to facilitate invocation of the remote method by a program executing in said execution environment, said control arrangement comprising:

i. a stub retrieval module configured to control said computer to initiate a retrieval of said stub from a server associated with processing of said remote method, said stub used to facilitate remote invocation of said remote method; and

ii. a stub loader module configured to control said computer to, after [when] said stub is received from said server in response to said stub retrieval module, load said stub into said execution environment, thereby to make the stub available for use in said remote invocation of said remote method.

33. (Four Times Amended) A system for distributing code stored on a computer readable medium and executable by a computer, the code including a plurality of modules each configured to control the computer to facilitate the retrieval and loading of a stub of a remote method into an execution environment to facilitate invocation of the remote method by a program executing in said execution environment, said system comprising:

- i. a stub retrieval module configured to control said computer to initiate a retrieval of said stub from a server associated with processing of said remote method, said stub used to facilitate remote invocation of said remote method; and
- ii. a stub loader module configured to control said computer to, after [when] said stub code is received from said server in response to said stub retrieval module, load said stub into said execution environment, thereby to make the stub available for use in said remote invocation of said remote method.

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